

What is claimed is:

1. A water irrigation system, comprising:
a computer system;

5 a sensing unit elevated above a zone to be irrigated, wherein the sensing unit comprises a solar panel configured to receive sunlight, to use the received sunlight to produce electricity, to supply at least a portion of the electricity to the sensing unit, and to assess climatological conditions; and

wherein the sensing unit is configured to communicate wirelessly with the
10 computer system to provide output that is a function of the assessed climatological conditions to the computer system; and

wherein the computer system is configured to control irrigation of the zone to be irrigated at least partially based on the output from the sensing unit.

15 2. The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the sensing unit is coupled to a building.

3. The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the sensing unit is coupled to a house.

20 4. The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the sensing unit is coupled to an eave of a house.

5. The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the computer system is configured
25 to receive community irrigation instructions.

6. The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the computer system comprises an infrared receiver.

30 7. The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the computer system comprises an infrared transceiver.

8. The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the sensing unit is configured to provide output that is a function of the received sunlight to the computer system, and wherein the computer system is configured to assess solar insolation as a function of the output from the sensing unit.

9. The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the sensing unit is configured to provide output that is a function of the received sunlight to the computer system, wherein the computer system is configured to assess solar insolation as a function of the output from the sensing unit, and wherein the computer system is configured to assess zonal evapotranspiration using at least the assessed solar insolation.

10. The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the computer system is configured to assess an irrigation need of the zone to be irrigated at least partially based on the assessed climatological conditions.

11. The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the computer system is configured to assess an irrigation need of the zone to be irrigated at least partially based on the assessed climatological conditions, and wherein the computer system is configured to at least meet the irrigation need of the zone to be irrigated.

12. The water irrigation system of claim 1, further comprising one or more valves that are operated by the computer system.

13. The water irrigation system of claim 1, further comprising one or more valves that are operated by the computer system, wherein at least one of the valves is coupled to one or more conduits, and wherein at least a portion of each conduit is configured to carry water.

14. The water irrigation system of claim 1, further comprising one or more valves that are operated by the computer system, wherein at least one of the valves is coupled to one

or more conduits, wherein at least a portion of each conduit is configured to carry water, and one or more irrigation devices, wherein at least one of the irrigation devices is coupled to at least one of the conduits.

5 15. The water irrigation system of claim 1, further comprising one or more valves that are operated by the computer system, wherein at least one of the valves is coupled to one or more conduits, wherein at least a portion of each conduit is configured to carry water, and a source of water that is coupled to at least one of the conduits.

10 16. A method of controlling irrigation, comprising:
receiving sunlight with a solar panel;
producing electricity from the received sunlight;
using at least a portion of the electricity to assess climatological conditions with a
sensing unit, wherein the sensing unit is elevated above a zone to be irrigated;
15 transmitting the assessed climatological conditions wirelessly to a computer
system; and
allowing the computer system to control irrigation of the zone to be irrigated at
least partially based on the assessed climatological conditions.

20 17. The method of claim 16, further comprising assessing solar insolation from the received sunlight.

18. The method of claim 16, further comprising assessing solar insolation based on the received sunlight and assessing zonal evapotranspiration at least partially based on the
25 assessed solar insolation.

19. The method of claim 16, further comprising assessing solar insolation based on the received sunlight, assessing zonal evapotranspiration at least partially based on the assessed solar insolation, and assessing an irrigation need of the zone to be irrigated at
30 least partially based on the zonal evapotranspiration.

20. The method of claim 16, further comprising assessing solar insolation based on the received sunlight, assessing zonal evapotranspiration at least partially based on the assessed solar insolation, assessing an irrigation need of the zone to be irrigated based at least partially on the zonal evapotranspiration, and controlling irrigation to at least meet
5 the irrigation need of the zone to be irrigated.